AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) A ~~storage device driver~~ method associated with a storage device driver, comprising:

receiving at [a] the storage device driver an asynchronous notification indicating that a current media status associated with a storage device has changed;

determining a current media status in response to the received indication;

caching the current media status;

receiving a synchronous poll request from an operating system; and

responding to the synchronous poll request in accordance with the cached current media status.

27-37. (Canceled)

38. (New) The method of claim 26, further comprising:

determining at the storage device that the current media status has changed; and

transmitting the asynchronous notification to a host system as a result of the determination, the notification being of a first type of asynchronous message that can also be transmitted for a reason other than a current media status change.

39. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein the asynchronous notification is associated with a serial advanced technology attachment interface.

40. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the asynchronous notification is associated with a set device bits packet.

41. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein said receiving is performed after the storage device is in a lower-power state.

42. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein the reduced power state is a sleep state.

43. (New) The method of claim 42, further comprising:

transmitting to the storage device a command to adjust a power state associated with the storage device.

44. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the current media status indicates at least one of: (i) an absence of a removable storage media, and (ii) a presence of a removable storage media.

45. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the storage device comprises at least one of: (i) a compact disc drive, (ii) a digital versatile disk drive, (iii) a tape drive, and (iv) a removable hard disk drive.

46. (New) A system, comprising:

a disk drive to provide an asynchronous notification that a current media status has changed; and

a host processor having a disk drive driver to (i) determine a current disk status in response to the asynchronous notification, (ii) cache the current disk status, (iii) receive a

synchronous poll request from an operating system, and (iv) respond to the synchronous poll request in accordance with the current disk status.

47. (New) A storage device drive apparatus, comprising:

a storage medium having stored thereon instructions that when executed by a machine result in the following:

receiving at a storage device driver an asynchronous notification indicating that a current media status associated with a storage device has changed,

determining a current media status in response to the received indication,

caching the current media status,

receiving a synchronous poll request from an operating system, and

responding to the synchronous poll request in accordance with the cached current media status.